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# Official Says Spying Arrests Are 'the Tip of the Iceberg'

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WASHINGTON, June 6 — A high-ranking Government official said today that he expected "at least another four or five" arrests in connection with the spy case that has been described as the most damaging in 30 years.

"I'm afraid this thing is really very much the tip of the iceberg," the official said of the four arrests so far.

The official, who is familiar with the investigation and asked not to be named, said that the purported espionage operation was much larger than was thought when the authorities arrested John A. Walker, the Virginia man who has been accused of forming the Soviet spy ring.

Meanwhile, Mr. Walker's former wife said in an interview published today in The Los Angeles Times that her husband had received "well over \$100,000" from Russian agents in exchange for secret Navy information.

## Interviews With Mrs. Walker

The woman, Barbara Joy Crowley Walker, was quoted as saying that Mr. Walker turned to espionage in the late 1960's to raise money to save a bankrupt South Carolina bar and restaurant he owned. In a separate interview, she said that she would not have told the authorities that Mr. Walker was a spy had she known that her son was also implicated.

Her son, Michael Walker, a yeoman aboard the aircraft carrier Nimitz, was arrested when nearly 15 pounds of secret Navy documents were found near his bunk, law-enforcement officials said.

Mrs. Walker said she had been in touch with her son and told, "Dad framed me to get even with you," according to Shalei Way, 29 years old, of Skowhegan, Me. Mrs. Way said that she spoke on the telephone Wednesday night with Mrs. Walker, who lived in Maine until recently.

"She believes someone placed documents that were incriminating near his bunk," Mrs. Way said, adding that Mrs. Walker said that she believed her former husband had "spies" on the Nimitz whom he directed to frame her son.

## Another Sailor Is Questioned

There were several other developments today in the case:

The Navy said that a sailor at the Pensacola Naval Air Station in Florida who had worked with a member of the Walker family was interviewed by investigators today but was not considered a suspect. No further information was made public.

A Federal prosecutor said one of the men already arrested had tried to expose the spy ring because he was reassured by the outcome of another highly publicized espionage case.

The John Birch Society, a conservative political group, confirmed that Mr. Walker and his wife had been members from 1964 to about 1966 while they were living in Charleston, S.C.

The Government official said it was unclear when additional arrests would be made, but he said there was no question that they were coming.

"This story is going to go on and on," he said.

Law-enforcement agents said they were attempting to deal with what one described as a "mountain" of evidence gathered during an investigation that had stretched from coast-to-coast and as far away as Asia and Europe.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation,

they said, was tracking leads today throughout the country.

Mr. Walker, his son, Michael, and older brother, Arthur, have been arrested and charged with espionage. A man described as Mr. Walker's closest friend, Jerry A. Whitworth, has also been accused of spying for the Soviet Union. All of the arrested men served in the Navy.

## 'I Want Him Punished'

In the interview with The Cape Cod Times that was also published today, Mrs. Walker said her former husband "had a real knack for destroying people who loved him and using them."

"I want him punished," she was quoted as saying. "How can a father do this? He used his own son. If what they say is true, he's lucky he's in jail because I would kill him."

Mrs. Walker has acknowledged that she told the Federal Bureau of Investigation about her husband's alleged spying. But she said she had not known about her son's connection to the case. "I only hope my son can forgive me," she said.

She told The Los Angeles Times that she had tried to visit her son in jail, but he refused to see her.

She said he "also loved the glamor of being a spy," according to The Los Angeles Times story. "He loved being one step ahead of other people, of walking down the street and knowing something no one else did."

## Anonymous Letters to F.B.I.

In California, the prosecutor who is handling the case against Mr. Whitworth said today in an interview that the suspect had tried to expose the purported spy ring because of publicity about another espionage case.

The prosecutor, Joseph Russoniello, the United States Attorney in San Francisco, said that Mr. Whitworth wrote anonymous letters to the F.B.I. last year, offering to expose the operation in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

Mr. Russoniello said the letters had probably been the result of the case of Joseph Harper, a California man who pleaded guilty last year to selling missile secrets to Polish and Russian agents. Mr. Harper entered the plea shortly after a court ruled that the death penalty was unconstitutional in Federal espionage cases.

Mr. Russoniello said publicity over the court's ruling had probably relieved Mr. Whitworth, prompting the letters.

"It seems to me more than coincidental that at the time that the Harper case was filling the media with discussion of the possibility of the death sentence" that Mr. Whitworth's letters would appear, the prosecutor said. In a later anonymous letter, Mr. Whitworth withdrew the offer, prosecutors said.